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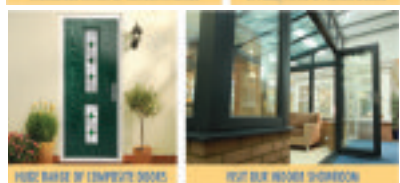
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Money is raised for hospital

VOLUNTEERS for Radio Horton have donated a grant total of £400 to the Horton General Hospital's charitable fund after Christmas fundraising at Banbury supermarkets.

The station is coming into its 53rd year of broadcasting and has been raising funds for the hospital at Sainsbury's for almost 30 years, and more recently Morrisons.

Over the festive period group members entertained shoppers and volunteer John Mayo, his wife Maria and dog Lola have now visited the hospital to present the cheque.

Mr Mayo said: "I have been involved with the station for over 20 years and was joined by Maria in 2009. We both enjoy Radio Horton and if we



John and Maira Mayo hand over the £400 to the hospital's Yolanda Jacob with dog Lola in tow

can make a difference to one person's stay in hospital, we have done our job."

Radio Horton will have been

broadcasting for 53 years in July, raising a total of £23,000.

The hospital's fundraising and projects manager Yolanda

Jacob said: "A huge thank you to Radio Horton for their kind donation and for everything that they do for the hospital."

Restructuring plans will come with a £150 million bill

THE COST OF SAVING NHS

Hannah Somerville
hannah.somerville@nqo.com

A CONTROVERSIAL plan to transform NHS services and make savings will itself cost £150m of taxpayer cash to deliver, it has been revealed.

Health bosses have asked NHS England for the vast sum to carry out their sustainability and transformation plan (STP) for the the region, which is set to include the permanent loss of some

acute services and consultant-led maternity care at the Horton General Hospital.

The figure was uncovered by the British Medical Association, which is concerned the ongoing national health shake-up is becoming 'unworkable'.

Keith Strangwood, of the Keep the Horton General campaign, said: "This is typical. This is an unproven, untested idea and could end up costing more than it saves."

■ CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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Centralisation is the key to radical changes put forward for health care

■continued from page 1

"We have asked them about a cost analysis and their document doesn't say a lot. You should pilot something before you do it."

Efforts to produce the STP are being led by 10 clinical commissioning groups across Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Berkshire West.

It aims to address staff shortages and avoid a financial gap of £479m by 2020 by streamlining NHS services and moving care away from hospital

Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group, whose chief executive David Smith is leading the group working on the STP, could not say what the £150m was for.

Spokeswoman Rachel McQuilliam said: "The £150m was an estimate of capital needed over a five-year period across the whole of the BOB [West Berkshire, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire] footprint.



Hundreds of people attended Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group's first Big Health and Care Conversation public event at St Mary's Church, Banbury, on January last year. Among those in attendance were Horton hospital campaigner Keith Stranawood

“Investment is needed in buildings and technology to modernise the NHS and how care is delivered. The process of confirming capital

requirements is currently ongoing."

The first part of the Oxfordshire arm of the STP is now out to con-

sultation and includes the closure of up to 200 beds, with plans to reduce critical care at the Horton, and move stroke services to Oxford.

while increasing the hospital's outpatient capacity, already out to public consultation.

Mr Strangwood said: "The biggest part of STP is centralisation. While you centralise you do away with services around the county.

"Most of the money is going to be saved by taking staff at maternity and A&E away from the Horton. They call it 'utilising sites'."

A spike in 'bed-blocking' in Oxfordshire's hospitals has been reported despite efforts by NHS trusts bringing it down to a record low of 57 beds last June.

In January a total of 124 people were stuck in acute beds, despite being medically fit to leave, and 119 last week.

Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust spokesman Roy Probert said: "Some delayed patients are waiting for a package of care at home, some a community hospital bed, some a place in a care home. The rise since the week after Christmas coincides with a period in which levels of hospital bed occupancy have been high."

Plans affecting the Horton currently out to consultation represent the local arm of the STP and are being split in half, with phase two of consultation likely to take place over the summer.

To submit your comments visit ti-nvurl.com/gkvyntd



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Purple blooms appearing ahead of fundraising concerts



THE first purple blooms are beginning to appear all over Banbury as the organisers of the 'Purple4Polio' campaign gear up for two huge fundraising concerts.

The town's two Rotary Clubs planted almost 50,000 crocus corms across the town this year, adding to 25,000 planted over the previous three.

On Tuesday, March 7 and Thursday, March 9, children from Banbury schools will raise their voices at Crocus Concerts fundraising event to help beat polio for good.

Polio is a potentially crippling and deadly infectious disease that still occurs in Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria, where cash to continue vaccinations is needed.

Project organiser Fred Riches said: "The purple crocus petal mirrors the dye marked on the finger of each child being vaccinated. We hope that everyone seeing a purple crocus this spring will be reminded of the link with polio and people will come along to the Crocus Concerts."

The Rotary Clubs have advised people wanting to spot crocuses to

walk from Bridge Street Park along the canal towards Spiceball Park, then to St Mary's Churchyard.

Both concerts are taking place from 7pm in St Mary's Church.

Every £5 ticket is trebled in value by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and £15 is enough to vaccinate around 50 children. To buy tickets visit tinyurl.com/j73q7cd.

Council seeking help to support refugee families

GROUPS wanting to support Syrian refugee families are invited to a meeting on Wednesday, March 15 with Cherwell District Council.

Participants will be updated on the local and national situation regarding the resettlement of Syrian people fleeing the civil war.

It will also be a chance for individual, voluntary and faith groups to give ideas on how they may be able to offer assistance to the new arrivals.

John Donaldson, the council's lead member for housing, said: "The plight of the families fleeing the Syrian civil war has moved a great many of us in the district.

"We are now inviting local people to come and talk to us about how they may be able to help these families to settle in successfully.

"We are working hard with private sector landlords to find homes for the refugees, but as well as bricks and mortar, the families will need to feel welcomed."

In 2015, then-Prime Minister David Cameron announced that the UK would relocate 20,000 Syrian refugees during the lifetime of the current parliament.

Cherwell has pledged to accept six families during this period and the first families are to arrive in the coming months, once accommodation has been arranged.

Anyone wishing to help is invited to the meeting at 6pm on Wednesday, March 15 at Bodicote House in White Post Road, just south of Banbury.

For more information email James Taylor at communityservices@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

Prolific dealer is jailed again

Drugs peddler with 247 convictions back behind bars after £2,840 bust

A 'PERSISTENT' dealer convicted of 247 offences is behind bars once again after being caught dishing out drugs in the city.

Michael Lilley, who has been breaking the law since 1989, confessed he turned to street dealing to fund his £60-a-day drug addiction.

The convict, whose 14-year drug addiction landed him behind bars for 20 months on Thursday, claimed he "relapsed" and fell into depression after the death of his dog last year.

Sentencing at Oxford Crown Court, Judge Maria Lamb condemned Lilley for his "extensive" criminal record before also slapping him with a financial penalty.

The 45-year-old told his partner sitting in the public gallery to "count down", miming "I love ya" as he was escorted from the dock.

Officers searched a Banbury property where Lilley was staying, discovering packages containing amphetamine in his bedroom and a set of scales last February.

Drugs with a street value of £2,840, weighing 387.79g, were



Michael Lilley was jailed at Oxford Crown Court

By Annabal Bagdi
abagdi@nqo.com

uncovered, while drug-dealing text messages were on his phone, prosecutor Alexandra Bull said.

Lilley was stopped by police while driving in Banbury last July, when police stumbled upon more than 72g of amphetamine, worth at least £1,200, and flower-ink cannabis buds.

The drug dealer was arrested in relation to an unrelated matter when officers discovered cannabis resin concealed in his inner jacket pocket last November.

Defence barrister Gordana Turudija-Austin said Lilley cannot fund his drug habit through

"legitimate means", with him using a "substantial" bulk of drugs each day.

The defendant also cares for his partner; the barrister told the court on Thursday.

Lilley, of Heathway, Banbury, admitted possessing amphetamine, a class B drug, with intent to supply on February 18 and July 13 last year.

He also admitted possessing cannabis, a class B drug, with intent to supply on July 13 last year; and possession of the drug on November 26 last year.

Judge Maria Lamb ordered him to pay a victim surcharge and £383.55 costs, as well as forfeiture and destruction of the drugs.

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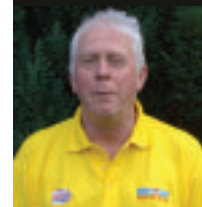
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Are you game for breeding bird survey?

VOLUNTEERS are needed to help with a bird survey in Oxfordshire.

The British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) has put out the appeal for people to help with its 2017 Breeding Bird Survey.

More than 3,600 randomly-selection 1km squares are surveyed across the UK each year by volunteer birders as part of the citizen science project.

The data collected is used in scientific research, to direct conservation efforts and to monitor the populations of widespread breeding birds, flagging up species that might be in trouble or those that are doing particularly well.

BTO regional representative for Oxfordshire Frances Buckel urged people to take part.

She said: "The details of how to do it are all very clear on the BTO website, however I am more than happy to go out with you on the first occasion.

"I am also willing to have one or two training days, it would only take a couple of hours, and if I get enough observers interested I would organise to meet in a central point in the area.

"There may be a random square near you, so do contact me to find out and take part."

Contact Ms Buckel on 01608 644425 or find out more about the nationwide project at bto.org.



Four-year-old Alistair Douglas whose mum, Jennifer, will be running this year's OX5 Run and dad, Rob, who ran it last year

Mum will join run to thank hospital for care for baby

OX5 will pay for place where parents of tots in hospital can sleep

Callum Keown
ckeown@nqo.com

A FIRST-TIME mum has thanked hospital staff for helping her through the 'rollercoaster ride' of her son's first few months by signing up for the OX5 Run.

Alistair Douglas was born with a cleft lip and palette, holes in his heart, and a gap between his feeding tube and breathing tube.

He spent the first four months of his life at Oxford Children's Hospital but now, aged four, he is thriving at school and has even started learning to swim.

His mum Jen, following on from dad Rob who raised more than £3,500 by taking part last year, has started training for this year's five-mile run at Blenheim Palace.

The 37-year-old said: "All the staff at the hospital were really supportive and friendly. It was a

bit of a rollercoaster ride but we had so much support, particularly from the respiratory team.

"We spent a lot of time in intensive care and Alistair became a bit of a poster boy. Everyone was so great to him.

"He is doing very well now, his speech has been delayed but he loves going to school and since the last operation in the summer he has started swimming which he loves."

The four-year-old, who goes to Bishop Loveday Primary School, was twice put on a ventilator in his first few months as doctors and nurses worked to get him healthy enough to go home.

After a stressful first six weeks of journeys from Bodicote to the hospital in Headington, the couple were provided with a bed at Ronald McDonald House on the top floor of the hospital.

This month's OX5 will raise money for a new 62-bedroom Ronald McDonald House facility and the engineer said it was why she was taking part.

She said: "Being able to stay at Ronald McDonald House made a humongous difference. The first six weeks when we were going back and forth from Bodicote

were quite draining.

"It's much easier being two floors away and being told your child is going on a ventilator than being an hour away.

"You're not physically doing anything but the emotional energy that goes into such a rollercoaster, especially with our first child, meant it was so important we had somewhere close by we could stay."

She added: "I started running in January with one of these couch to 5k apps and through a combination of walking and running I'll make it around.

"I just want to raise anything I can for the hospital."

The OX5 Run is being sponsored by recruitment firm Allen Associates for the ninth year.

Last year's event saw a record-breaking £115,000 raised, which has already been spent on a sensory room to educate and entertain children in the high dependency unit, equipment to stabilise premature babies and a specialist nurse for children with severe asthma.

People wanting to take part can do so by signing up online by going to hospitalcharity.co.uk/ox5run.



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Opening of new gallery attracts 70 as summer event is planned

Pop-up gallery aimed at providing a display forum for local artists

Hannah Somerville
hannah.somerville@nqo.com

CREATIVE endeavour is blossoming in Banbury with the opening of a new gallery in the town centre and plans for a special art event this summer.

Last Friday about 70 people packed into Church Lane Gallery to toast the opening of the new space on a trial basis.

The gallery aims to promote the best of local talent and features an array of paintings, sculpture and glasswork by artisans from Oxfordshire and the Cotswolds.

It was first dreamt up several years ago by Barry Whitehouse, owner of nearby shop The Artery, and town team co-ordinators Iain Nicholson and Neil Wild.

Mr Whitehouse, a painter, said: "It's such a privilege to be given the opportunity to realise my dream to trial a professional gallery in Banbury. On Friday there were a few sales and lots of positive comments about how much the area needs a proper gallery space for the community to celebrate local artists."

"It will complement other creative



Visitors mill around in the new space at the opening of Church Lane Gallery on Friday

places in the Old Town such as The Artery, Buzzy's, Frogabilia, The Art Framing Workshop, and J D'Cruz and be a great asset to the town."

The gallery is on the corner of Church Lane and Church Walk and is open from 10am to 3pm on Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays and

from 10am to 1pm on Thursdays.

It is currently running as a pop-up shop from rented space and if it proves successful during March it may be extended.

Mr Whitehouse said: "This is a trial to see if the town can sustain an actual gallery because obviously



it can only make its living through the sale of artwork."

Meanwhile a new event, Banbury ArtFest, is being planned that will take place in conjunction with the Banbury and District Show in June.

Upwards of 25 artisans are set to pitch up in Spiceball Park display-

ing their work but also demonstrating their skills, making pots, weaving and painting on site.

There will also be an art shop for those interested in buying materials. Artists who would like to be considered for exhibiting should call 01295 275150.

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No tax rise despite cut in grants

Labour lambasts 1.25% hike in allowances for councillors

Hannah Somerville
hannah.somerville@nqo.com

CHERWELL District Council has insisted it will be able to protect its services despite a 12.7 per cent cut in government funding and a continued council tax freeze.

On February 20 councillors approved the budget for the 2017/18 financial year, which will deliver all of its services for a grand total of £18.8m.

For the eighth year running the local authority has pledged not to increase council tax but was divided on the decision to increase councillors' allowances.

The budget will pay for services in North Oxfordshire including waste and recycling collections, leisure centres, planning and street cleansing.

Council lead member for finance Ken Attack said: "We are following through on our pledge to protect services without forcing people to pay more."

"The current climate makes it very hard for the council to protect services without placing an excessive burden on taxpayers."

"However our proactive approach means that we can balance our books without affecting frontline services."

The 2017 business plan lists a number of key pledges including the delivery of the Bicester Healthy New Town project and the completion of the pavilion at the White-lands Farm Sports Ground.

It also pledges a fast response time when dealing with flytipping, the improvement of the lives of the most vulnerable through its



Ken Attack, Cherwell District Council's lead member for finance

'Brighter Futures' initiative and an ongoing commitment to retaining the widest level of service provision at the Horton General Hospital.

Labour councillors lambasted and voted against the plans to increase allowances by



Labour group leader Sean Woodcock

1.25 per cent, which were eventually passed.

The Labour contingent also voted against blue badge holders continuing to be charged to park their cars in district council-owned car parks.

Group leader Sean Woodcock said: "It will be

highly offensive for councillors to accept a pay rise at a time when there is a national crisis in social care.

"We continue to oppose a regime where those higher up the organisation get larger pay increases than those lower down the pay scale."

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Councils' row puts funding for major county schemes 'at risk'

One Oxfordshire says devolution is dead, but authorities disagree

Matt Oliver
moliver@nqo.com

A BID to seek hundreds of millions of pounds for Oxfordshire's roads and infrastructure is in danger of collapse, it has been warned.

Council leaders originally hoped to submit devolution proposals to the Government next month but recent infighting may now have scuppered this plan, the *Banbury Cake* has been told.

The proposals drawn up by the six biggest councils would have asked for major new powers and funding for housing, further education and transport projects including Oxford railway station's redevelopment or a scheme to make the A40 a dual carriageway east of Witney. This would have been controlled by an elected mayor and combined authority, in a model based on a successful bid by Cambridge and Peterborough worth £800m.

But it has been eclipsed by the row about Oxfordshire County Council's calls for a new "super council",



Oxford City Council leader Bob Price

with other authorities accusing it of trying to "kill off" devolution.

On the "One Oxfordshire" website explaining its proposal for a countywide, unitary authority – which would replace existing councils – the county council claimed devolution was "dead". It added: "Devolution will not deliver infrastructure

investment, only unitary will."

County council spokeswoman Emily Reed yesterday insisted the authority was "happy" to work on a devolution bid, but added: "The real question is whether central government continues to have the appetite for such devolution proposals."

"Government remains keen to



West Oxfordshire District Council leader James Mills

see the One Oxfordshire proposals. That's why we say a unitary council with a substantial investment fund is the most likely way to meet the county's infrastructure needs."

But the comments were described as sabotage by Oxford City Council leader Bob Price, who claimed they made "a self-serving argu-

ment". He told the *Oxford Times*: "It is only two weeks since county council leader Ian Hudspeth and the district council leaders confirmed our agreement to work quickly to produce a devolution proposal for submission to government in early March. Now the county council is claiming 'devolution is dead'."

"While Cambridge is forging ahead with a billion-pound deal, the county council has turned its back on the opportunity to secure investment for the housing and transport needs in Oxfordshire."

James Mills, leader of West Oxfordshire District Council, said claims the Government had abandoned its devolution agenda were "untrue". He added: "It is wrong to conflate the issue of a unitary council with devolution. Devolution is about new powers and money, local government reorganisation is about reducing overheads."

The Department for Communities and Local Government rejected claims it was no longer interested in devolution, but added: "Ministers are clear where significant powers are transferred they must be accompanied by strong governance and wide local support."

The county council – supported by Vale of White Horse and South Oxfordshire district councils – says £20 million a year could be saved by a new single authority.



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Additional Show tickets can be purchased at the advance ticket prices of £13 – weekday adult (over 60s – £11), £15 – weekend adult (over 60s – £13). Just follow the on – screen instructions or telephone **0844 858 6763**. Find out more at www.idealhomeshow.co.uk

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A maximum of two free adult weekday (Monday to Friday) tickets per household can be claimed. Tickets can only be claimed online and cannot be claimed by any other method. Tickets are available for use on any weekday show day. Tickets must be claimed by midnight Sunday March 5 2017. Any claims after that date will be invalid. Tickets cannot be exchanged for cash and are not transferable. In the event of any dispute the Show's organisers, Media 10 Ltd has the right to refuse admission. Tickets can only be claimed online at www.idealhomeshow.co.uk and are issued on a first come first served basis. For more terms and conditions please visit www.newsquest.co.uk



Millions spent on free schools 'starves county of repair cash'

MP decries 'politically driven' scheme that left head teacher 'infuriated'

Luke Sproule
lsproule@nqo.com

SCHOOLS in Oxfordshire could be left with peeling paintwork and broken heating at the expense of the government's "politically driven" free schools programme, it has been warned.

Government spending watchdog the National Audit Office (NAO) said £7.1bn was needed to bring all schools in the country up to a good standard.

But by 2022 the government will spend an estimated £2.5bn on buying land needed for free schools – which can be set up by community groups, charities and businesses.

Lynn Knapp, head teacher of Windmill Primary School in Headington, said local authority-run schools could fall into disrepair.

She said: "We have got less money to spend on maintenance but it is an old building from 1935 that is starting to deteriorate. Trying to keep on top of that is hard. It could end up like Rose Hill Primary School if it is not well maintained.



Windmill Primary School headteacher Lynn Knapp

Photo: Andrew Walmsley

"Children need an environment that is safe and conducive to learning. If you have paint peeling off the walls and you have damp it leads to problems.

"The free school agenda infuriates me."

Children at Rose Hill were forced to wear hats and gloves in class in late 2015 after the boiler broke and

temperatures dropped to 10°C.

In Oxfordshire in the current financial year schools have been allocated £346m from the government's main schools grant – which must also be used for paying staff and buying equipment.

In comparison, the new Swan Free School planned to open in 2019 will cost an estimated £25m while an-

other free school trust has plans to expand into Headington.

On Tuesday, the county council voted to contribute £2m towards the construction of the Swan School.

The £25m the council expects the government to spend on the Swan School is more than the average free school because the Department for Education will have to find new

accommodation for Meadowbrook College and Oxfordshire Hospital School.

Both are based at the Harlow Centre site earmarked for school.

It will be the second school in MP Andrew Smith's Oxford East constituency. The Labour MP said: "This National Audit Office report is powerful independent confirmation of what many of us have argued all along – that the money the government is pumping into its politically driven free schools programme is coming at the expense of the funding and upkeep of mainstream schools."

Free schools, which do not have to follow the national curriculum, can change the length of terms and the school day. They were created in 2010 by the coalition government.

County council cabinet member for education Steve Harrod said: "It is obviously the case that large sums of money are being allocated nationally for free schools, while funds for the maintenance and repair of existing school buildings in Oxfordshire and the rest of the country remain limited."

A Department for Education spokesman said: "The government is making a huge investment in the school estate of £23bn up to 2021, deliver 500 new free schools, and rebuild and refurbish buildings at more than 500 schools."

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Deadline approaching fast for Oxfordshire Business Awards

Event promotes excellence of the county's best companies

THE deadline for this year's Oxfordshire Business Awards is approaching fast, companies are being reminded.

Oxfordshire Business Awards chairman Paul Lowe said preparations were now well under way and the deadline for applications is Friday, March 17.

It is free to enter the awards and once firms have submitted their entries they will be sent a confirmation email.

Last year management consultants Newton Europe were named Business of the Year at the ceremony at the De Vere Oxford Thames hotel in Sandford-on-Thames.

This year more than 500 business leaders are due to attend the final on Friday, June 16, at the King's Centre in Osney Mead, West Oxford.

Mr Lowe said: "Entries have been coming in at an encouraging rate – there are lots of past winners and finalists entering alongside some businesses I have not previously heard of."

"At this stage it would be great to have a few more entries in the Cultural Event and Tourism Award category."

"Oxfordshire is a great county for tourism and is blessed with lots of cultural events throughout the year and with lots of tourist attractions."

"This is a broad category so it would be good if we could get some more entries – these organisations may well be extremely



Last year's Oxfordshire Business Awards

Andy Ffrench
affrench@nqo.com

busy planning their events but we would urge them to come forward."

For 23 years, the Oxfordshire Business Awards has been recognising, rewarding and

promoting the excellence of Oxfordshire-based companies.

Organised and supported by 12 of the county's leading organisations, the awards are now established as a benchmark for excellence in today's competitive business environment.

The Oxford Times is once again sponsoring

the Charity and Community Award.

Last year Aspire Oxford won the category and will benefit from the proceeds of the raffle held on the night of the awards.

Based in Osney Lane, Aspire Oxford was established in 2001.

It runs its own social businesses offering management services to councils, academic institutions and private customers and creates work placements and employment opportunities for local people.

Mr Lowe added: "It has been the tradition that if you are the winner of the Charity and Community Award you are the recipient of the raffle money the following year."

The Savills Property Award was won last year by Bicester Heritage, a centre for historic motoring and aviation.

A Bicester Heritage spokesman said: "Winning the award was like a big pat on the back and someone saying 'you know you are doing well, you are doing the right things, so keep going'."

"If you're thinking of entering, just do it."

The Business of the Year Award is sponsored by electrical engineers Darke & Taylor. Commercial director Simon Newton said: "To say you are an award-winning company may tip the balance and make a person come and work for you, rather than a competitor."

"It also helps when you are tendering for work. It works across the whole remit of the business."

The closing date is midnight on Friday, March 17 and the deadline will not be extended.

It costs nothing to enter the awards and the only way to enter is via the website oxfordshirebusinessawards.co.uk.

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11 days from £1399 Sailing from Bristol on board *Marco Polo*, 6 May 2018

These wonderful extended, late spring voyages to Western Norway, with some memorable fjord passages and a quintet of calls, showcase this glorious region at its very best, with the majestic fjords throwing off their winter cloak.

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- ✓ Visit Bergen, ancient trading city and 'Gateway to the Fjords'
- ✓ A call at Olden offers the chance to journey to the awe-inspiring Briksdal Glacier
- ✓ Geiranger is a beguiling fjordland village
- ✓ Flåm lies at the head of mighty Sognefjord
- ✓ Call at former fishing capital Stavanger
- ✓ Traditional British & International cuisine, stylish entertainment, guest lecturers & on-board leisure facilities
- ✓ 10 nights' full board accommodation on board *Marco Polo*

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This Eastertime break sees *Marco Polo* head across the Channel to sunny southern outpost Guernsey, before a passage through the upper reaches of the River Seine takes in two delightful ports of call, with an encounter with sister-ship *Magellan*. A last day is spent in the delightful Isles of Scilly.

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- ✓ The beautiful island of Guernsey
- ✓ Explore Honfleur in Normandy
- ✓ The 'Joan of Arc' city of Rouen
- ✓ The stunning Isles of Scilly are one of Britain's most beautiful locations
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Get your claws into X-Men

LOGAN (15, 137 mins) Action/Sci-Fi/Fantasy/Thriller. Hugh Jackman, Patrick Stewart, Dafne Keen, Stephen Merchant, Boyd Holbrook, Richard E Grant, Elizabeth Rodriguez. Director: James Mangold.

Time waits for no mutant in Hugh Jackman's grim and explosively violent swansong as one of the most iconic characters in the X-Men.

Set in the year 2029, *Logan* paints a bleak portrait of super-powered beings on the verge of extinction in a brutal, intolerant world that destroys what it cannot understand.

Director James Mangold turbocharges the muscular action sequences including several bruising skirmishes between the lead character and his pursuers that invariably end with those razor-sharp claws.

There is plenty of spectacle here, punctuating a moving story of unconventional families in crisis, exemplified by the touching relationship between the title character and his 90-year-old surrogate father, Professor Charles Xavier (Patrick Stewart).

When protégée defies mentor, Stewart's potty-mouthed outbursts are tinged with regret and a mournful

acknowledgement that no-one is immune from death's icy grasp.

World-weary Logan (Jackman) lives in a tumbledown ranch in the desert, where he cares for ailing Professor Xavier aided by albino tracker Caliban (Stephen Merchant).

Logan's abilities as Wolverine are waning – pus oozes from his knuckles when he retracts his Adamantium claws and his body no longer self-heals.

Out of the blue, a nurse called

Gabriela (Elizabeth Rodriguez) contacts Logan and offers him \$50,000 to drive a mysterious girl called Laura (Dafne Keen) to “a place up north” called Eden.

The child is a vital link to a new generation of mutants and is being pursued by surgeon Dr Zander Rice (Richard E Grant).

En route, Logan discovers secrets about his inglorious past and reluctantly takes on the role of the little girl's protector.

Logan strikes a contemplative tone, which sets it apart from the other Wolverine films.

Director Mangold and fellow scriptwriters Scott Frank and Michael Green relish the freedom to explore familiar characters with fresh eyes.

They adopt a leisurely pace, closing one chapter of the X-Men mythology while potentially opening another.

VICEROY'S HOUSE (12A, 106 mins) Drama/Romance. Hugh Bonneville, Gillian Anderson, Manish Dayal, Huma Qureshi, Michael Gambon, Simon Callow, David Hayman, Lily Travers, Tanveer Ghani, Denzil Smith, Neeraj Gabi, Simon Williams. Director: Gurinder Chadha.

British Punjabi director Gurinder Chadha explores the 1947 partition of India from myriad perspectives in the lustrous period drama *Viceroy's House*.

This chocolate box of historical fact and forbidden romance aims for a similar collision of upstairs' downstairs affairs of the heart as *Downton Abbey*.

The script's frothy rendering of a dark, blood-soaked episode on the subcontinent, which resulted in the mass migration of 14 million people, is epitomised by one emotional scene.

Hindu and Muslim servants at

the eponymous residence come to blows over their beliefs and the viceroy's dour, Scottish head of household (David Hayman) is knocked to the floor in the commotion.

Chadha and co-writers Paul Mayeda Berges and Moira Buffini distil complex political wrangling into a glossy soap opera, replete with an implausibly tidy and emotionally manipulative final act that shamelessly tugs heartstrings.

Lord Louis Mountbatten (Hugh Bonneville) arrives in the swelter of 1947 Delhi at the behest of King George VI to replace Archie Wavell (Simon Williams) as viceroy of India and oversee the transfer of power.

Lady Edwina Mountbatten (Gillian Anderson) and daughter Pamela (Lily Travers) also make the journey in the face of shocking reports about sectarian violence.

Louis and chief of staff Lord Ismay (Michael Gambon) host the political elite – including Mahatma Gandhi (Neeraj Gabi) – to debate the way forward.

Meanwhile, romance blossoms between two members of the household – Hindu servant Jeet (Manish Dayal) and Muslim sweetheart Aalia (Huma Qureshi) – who will be torn apart if partition goes ahead.

Viceroy's House apportions sympathy between the central characters, including Lord Mountbatten, who is portrayed as a pawn of a distant British government that intends to implement its crude exit strategy, regardless of the repercussions.

Solid production values evoke the post-war period and Om Puri, who died in January, enjoys a small, yet affecting supporting role as a blind father.



Hugh Jackman as Logan/Wolverine

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Cake Bookworm

A Line Made By Walking by Sara Baume is published in hardback by William Heinemann, priced £12.99 (ebook £9.49).

Sara Baume's work does not rely on narrative. Her writing flourishes because instead of depending on plot devices, it takes time to thoroughly explore the minds of its protagonists. Her first work, *Spill Summer* Falter Wither, focused on the mind of a man who socialised predominantly with his dog. Her second, *A Line Made By Walking*, focuses on that of Frankie, a young artist who, failing to master city life, retreats to her deceased grandmother's bungalow in the countryside. Whilst there, Frankie finds her days pass her by, achieving very little, but eventually she begins to seek comfort and artistic inspiration in the nature that surrounds her. Baume's sophomore effort is a masterclass in the power of prose. Frankie's depression and insecurities unfold in the most three-dimensional of ways. They do not feel like plot devices, but instead permeate the novel as they do life. A brilliant work that will likely resonate with anyone who's ever felt a little lost in their twenties and beyond.

9/10

City Of Friends by Joanna Trollope is published in hardback by Mantle, priced £18.99 (ebook £7.12)

Emotional turmoil, often hidden beneath a facade of brave faces and stiff-upper-lip normality, is among the trademarks of Joanna Trollope's contemporary work, whether it's affairs of the heart, family issues, bereavement, betrayal and a variety of social dilemmas. Her 20th novel centres on four ambitious female friends who have shared joys and heartache since university and are now nearing their fifties and in high-flying careers. But the dynamics of the group change when one of them is sacked and there follows a series of complications arising from betrayals, interwoven through both their professional and private lives, which threaten the future of the friendships. Told in chapters focusing on each of the four protagonists individually, Trollope's work cleverly tackles contemporary issues and raises the age-old question: can women have it all? Her observations are as astute as ever, as female friendships, tricky teenagers, fractured families, elderly relatives and workplace issues are all thrown into the mix. She makes

an excellent case for the viewpoint that having an enjoyable job can save a woman's sanity.

8/10

Ragdoll by Daniel Cole is published in hardback by Trapeze, priced £12.99 (ebook £6.99).

Available February 23

In a horrific turn of events, a body is found with the mutilated parts of six victims sewn together like a puppet, dubbed the 'ragdoll' by the media. Detective William "Wolf" Fawkes is allocated to the case with his ex-partner Detective Emily Baxter. Fawkes must identify the six victims, but events get even more complicated when the killer issues a "hit list" of six people, and the dates on which they'll die, and the last name on the list is Fawkes himself. This is a real rollercoaster of a ride and a deliciously dark thriller as time quickly passes and the police flounder to find answers in this mad, twisted investigation. This novel was initially a rejected TV screenplay for the author, who has now effectively turned it into a enthralling tale that will keep you hooked until the very last page. The writing and descriptions are wonderfully graphic.

8/10

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Oxfordshire Listings

Events

THURSDAY

Belly Dance Classes: Methodist Church, High Street, Witney. 1pm. £5. 07400 228722.

FRIDAY

Witney Bytomic Taekwondo Classes: Wood Green School, Woodstock Road, Witney. 7pm. Monthly fees apply. 01844 281888.
Women's World Day of Prayer Service: Wheatley United Reformed Church, Crown Square, Wheatley. Church service prepared by Christian women of The Philippines. All welcome. 2pm. Free. 01844 339384.

SATURDAY

Cherwell Cats Protection Fundraising Sale: Tackley Village Hall, Medcroft Road, Tackley. 1pm. 20p per person, children free. 01869 242730.
Dance through the Ages: St John's Church Hall, Kidlington. A workshop exploring a range of dances from the 15th to the 19th century. 10.30am. £25/£20 concs. 01225 344353.
Day Out with Thomas and Friends: Didcot Railway Centre, Entry through Didcot Parkway Railway Station, Didcot. Thomas the Tank Engine is running on his Branch Line and his friends are running on the Main Line. During the day, Professor Crump will be clowning around and Twistina and Twispother will be balloon modelling. Thomas story readings will be held hourly from 11am in the Imagination Station. 10am. £14 adult, £11 child. 01235 817200.

Free Drop-in Drawing Hour: Vale & Downland Museum, 19 Church Street, Wantage. With artist Vicky Vergou and local teacher Pam Stokell. 11am. Free. 01235 771447.

National Art and Design Saturday Club: Banbury and Bicester College, Broughton Road, Oxford. Free programme for 14-16 year olds. 10am. 0808 168 6626.

Table Top Sale: Faringdon Corn Exchange, Marlborough Street, Faringdon. Faringdon Baby and Toddler Group. 10am.

Walk (Fieldpaths): Turville Village Green, alongside the church. 7.5 miles. A fairly energetic walk with good views in the Chilterns Visiting two Norman churches with John Piper windows. Bring refreshments and a picnic. Assistance dogs only. 10am. 07963 906335.

SUNDAY

Day Out with Thomas and Friends: Didcot Railway Centre, Entry through Didcot Parkway Railway Station, Didcot. See Saturday.

Ewelme Watercress Beds and Nature Reserve Guided Walk: Watercress Centre, The Street, Ewelme. 10.30am. £3 adults accompanied children free.

National Garden Scheme: Lime Close, 35 Henleys Lane, Drayton. Four-acre mature plantsman's garden with rare trees, shrubs, perennials and bulbs. 2pm. Adult £5, children free.

Ramblers walk: Cholesbury, By the Full Moon PH, Buckinghamshire. Eight-mile walk visiting the ancient works around the common. Pub stop. 10am. 01844 213467.

Sunday Drop-in IncrEdible Adventure: Earth Trust, Little Wittenham, Abingdon. Celebrate spring by foraging for dandelions to cook on the fire and planting herbs and salad to take away. 10am. £4 suggested donation per child. 01865 407792.

MONDAY

Banbury Floral Art: Bodicote Church House, Bodicote. Demonstration by Margaret Rumens and competition Anything Goes. 7.30pm. 01295 550276.

TUESDAY

Learn to Crochet: Millets Farm, Kingston Road Frilford, Abingdon. 10am. £45. 07974 081526.

Pilates Classes: Drayton Village Hall, Lockway, Drayton. New Pilates Classes (one is chair-based) – three per Tuesday morning to choose from via Philippa Aldridge Fitness. 9.30am. 07702 727971.

Pottery painting for Mothers Day: No Two Things, 120 Broadway, Didcot. 7pm. £10 deposit. 01235 511550.

Silver jewellery for Mothers Day: No Two Things, 120 Broadway, Didcot. 7pm. £75. 01235 511550.

Stringing and Knotting pearls: No Two Things, 120 Broadway, Didcot. 7pm. £15 plus materials if required. 01235 511550.

Tea Dance: Woodstock Social Club, 44 Oxford Street, Woodstock. 2pm. £2. 01993 811473.

WEDNESDAY

Cotswold Decorative & Fine Arts Society: Bradwell Village Hall, Bradwell Village, Burford. Twelfth Century MS Giant Bibles by Dr Christopher de Hamel. 10.15am. Non-members welcome (suggested donation £10).

New Light on the Romano-British Countryside: St Mary's Church, Market Place, Wallingford. March's talk to The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society (TWHAS) will be given by Alexander Telford Smith, a Senior Research Fellow at Reading University. 7.45pm. Visitors £4. 01491 836096.

The Drawings of EH Shepard: Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum, Park Street, Woodstock. James Campbell provides a unique talk on EH Shepard. Ernest Shepard has delighted generations of children with his charming drawings of Winnie the Pooh, Piglet, Eeyore and Tigger. Now it has emerged that before he had found his fame as AA Milne's illustrator, he used his artistic talent to document his time in the trenches during the First World War through a series of humorous caricatures. 6.45pm. £10. 0199 3810211.

Walk (Fieldpaths): Near Peyton Arms pub, Stoke Lyne. SP566283 6.3 miles. A pleasant circular walk passing through Bainton, Hardwick and Tusmore Park. Bring refreshments for en route break, pub at end of walk. Assistance dogs only. 10am. 01865 373366.

Music

THURSDAY

The Jericho Tavern, 56 Walton Street, Oxford: Great Ape, Daisy, Freemantle, The Shanties, The Outside. Local rockers. 7pm. £7.

The Cock Inn, Combe: Nick Gill. Classic jazz and ragtime piano/vocals. 8pm. Free.

FRIDAY

Finstock Village Hall, Well Hill, Finstock: Miranda Sykes & Rex Preston. To celebrate the release of *The Watchmaker's Wife*. Rare fusion of double bass and mandolin. £11. 7.30pm. 01993 868134.

Holywell Music Room, Holywell Street, Oxford: Spring Weekend of Song: James Gilchrist, tenor, and Anna Tilbrook, piano. £25. 7.30pm. 01865 591 276.

Jacqueline du Pré Music Building, St Hilda's College, Oxford: Piano Weekend 1: Ian Pace – Hommage to David Tudor. Pre-concert talk at 6.45pm. Works by Boulez, Cage, Feldman, Evangelisti & Wolpe. Gallery £15, stalls £12, students £12/£5. 7.30pm. 01865 286660.

Marlborough Road Methodist Church, Marlborough Road, Banbury: Six of the Best – a musical

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Please add your event no later than ten days before the day of publication.

concert. Banbury Operatic Society (BOS) presents its Spring 2017 concert, £10. 7.30pm.

The North Wall, South Parade, Summertown: Camille O'Sullivan. Dramatic interpretations of the songs of Brel, Cave, Waits, Bowie and more. £20. 8pm. 01865 319450.

The Three Horseshoes, Chinnor Road, Towersey: The Ben Somers String Band. £10. 7.30pm. 01844 212322.

The White House, Abingdon Road, Oxford: Oxford Folk Club open night. £2. 8.30pm. 01865 768128.

Wadham College, Okinaga Room, Holywell Street, Oxford: Spring Weekend of Song: Companions in Song. Free. 2pm.

Yeoman Inn, Wroslyn Road, Freelead: Ann Marie. Local vocalist. Free. 9pm. 01993 881003.

27 Curtis Industrial Estate, North Hinksey Lane, Oxford: Matt Chanarin and Moonmadness. The Tap Social. 7.30pm. Free.

The Wheatsheaf, 129 High Street, Oxford: Smiley & The Underclass, Stolby, Ash Lewis, Restructure. 8pm. £5.

James Street Tavern, 47-48 James Street, Oxford: Tom Ivey, Mad Larry, The Jesters. Monthly showcase with featured bands followed by open jam session. 8pm. Free.

SATURDAY

Aston & Cote Village Hall, Cote Road, Aston: Alan Barnes and Dave Newton duo. Jazz. £10. 7.30pm. 01993 850164.

Cowley Workers SC, Between Towns Road, Cowley: Decades. Male duo. 8.45pm. 01865 772970.

Holywell Music Room, Holywell Street, Oxford: Spring Weekend of Song: Benjamin Appl, baritone, and Sholto Kynoch. £25. 8pm. 01865 591 276.

Jacqueline du Pré Music Building, St Hilda's College, Oxford: Piano Weekend 1: Nicolas Hodges. Pre-concert talk at 6.45pm. Gallery £15, stalls £12, students £12/£5. 7.30pm. 01865 286660.

Marlborough Road Methodist Church, Marlborough Road, Banbury: Six of the Best. Banbury Operatic Society Spring 2017 concert. £10. 7.30pm.

Marston Royal British Legion, Hadow Road, Marston: Joe Holic. Free. 8pm. 01865 243991.

Northway CC, Dora Carr Close, Headington: Jason Pegg. Free. 9pm. 07957 322489.

Oxford C&C Bowls Club, Marston Ferry Road, Marston: Decades. 8.30pm. 01865 554334.

St Denys' Church, Church Green, Headington in the Vale: Early Spring Sonatas. Music in the Vale. £12. 7.30pm. 01367 718420.

The North Wall, South Parade, Oxford: Camille O'Sullivan. Dramatic interpretations of the songs of Brel, Cave, Waits, Bowie and more. £20. 8pm. 01865 319450.

Christ Church Cathedral, St Aldate's, Oxford: Schola Cantorum: Jesu, Meine Freude. Schola Cantorum of Oxford, under the direction of James Burton. £12, £5 students and Under-18s. 8pm.

The Queen's College, High Street, Oxford: The Eglesfield Musical Society

Saturday Recital Series. Piano recital by Alexander Hardwick. Admission is free with a retiring collection. 1.30pm. 01865 279120.

The Queen's College, High Street, Oxford: Victoria Requiem and White Lamentations. £15, concessions £12, students £5. 7.30pm. 01865 279120.

The Windrush Club, 106 High Street, Witney: Rhythm Street. 9pm. 01993 702207.

The Wheatsheaf, 129 High Street, Oxford: Dirt-A-Gogo, Bad Blood Recovery, 1968, Crimson Tusk. Metal/hard rock. 8pm.

Deaf & Hard of Hearing Centre, 10 Littlegate Street, St Ebbe's, Oxford: Heathcote Williams, Duotone, Art Theefe, Rob Sykes, Matt Chanarin Band. 7.30pm. £8.

Harry's Oxford, 119 Cowley Road, Oxford: The Rollright Stones. Local covers band. 9pm. Free.

James Street Tavern, 47-48 James Street, Oxford: Jerry Lunn, Sir Bald, Johnny Louche. 8pm. Free.

St John the Evangelist, Iffley Road, Oxford: Macmillan's Seven Last Words from the Cross. Commotio join forces for the first time with Oxfordshire's A440 Chamber Orchestra. £12 / £8. 7.30pm.

SUNDAY

Sheldonian Theatre, Broad Street, Oxford: Oxford Bach Choir. The Oxford Bach Choir, with their new principal conductor David Crown, perform J.S. Bach's B minor Mass accompanied by the London Mozart Players. £10-£42. 5pm.

Sheldonian Theatre, Broad Street, Oxford: FUNomusica: A World at Your Feet. Alasdair Malloy and the Oxford Philharmonic. Pre-concert craft activities at 2pm. £10, children £4. 2pm. 01865 980980.

St Nicolas Church, Market Place, Abingdon: Maki Sekiya piano. £10 (£9). 3pm. 07775 904626.

The Bell, 38 Market Place, Wantage: Mudslide Morris & the Revelators. 5pm. 07790 646028.
The Wheatsheaf, 129 High Street, Oxford: Beard Of Destiny, Purple May, Jacob March, Sammy Pope & Sarah and Phil Garvey. 3.30-8.30pm. Free.

Wolfson College Auditorium, Linton Road, Oxford: Spring Weekend of Song: Ciara Hendrick, mezzo-soprano & Sholto Kynoch, piano. £12. 5.45pm. 01865 591276.

Oxford Wine Café, 38 South Parade, Summertown: Joanna Galka Quartet. Vocals, vibes, bass and percussion. 6.30-9pm. Free.

The Bullington, 162 Cowley Road, Oxford: K-Lacura, Trauma UK, Hope Burden, 1000 Chains, Force Of Mortality. Rock and metal battle of the bands. 7pm. £5.

Rose And Crown, 14 North Parade Avenue, Oxford: Steve Foster Trio with Trish Elphinstone. Jazz. 7pm. Free.

MONDAY

James Street Tavern, 47-48 James Street, Oxford: Harp Workshop. 8pm. Free.

TUESDAY

The Mad Hatter, 43 Iffley Road, Oxford: The Music Of Krzysztof Komeda. Oxford University Jazz Society. 8.30pm. £4/£3.

The Old Fire Station, 40 George Street, Oxford: Chris Wood. £14 in

advance, £16 on the door. 8pm. 01865 263990.

WEDNESDAY

Brill Sports and Social Club, Church Road, Brill: Jubilee Jazzband. Free. 8.30pm. 01844 237237.

The Queen's College, Chapel, High Street, Oxford: Organ Recital Series. The Eglesfield Musical Society. Will Fox. Admission is free with a retiring collection. 1.10pm. 01865 279125.

The Talkhouse, Wheatley Road, Stanton St John: Jazz with the Tim Dawes Quartet. 8.30pm. Free. 01865 351654.

The Wheatsheaf, 129 High Street, Oxford: Juniper Nights, Empyre, Quarter Melon, Ras Brother John. 8pm. £7.

Theatre

Andrew Wiles Building, Woodstock Road, Oxford: Until Mar 5, 1984. Creation Theatre. 7.30pm. £18-£23. 01865 766266.

The Bullington, 162 Cowley Road, Oxford: Mar 4, Mike Wilmot, Tanyalee Davis, Junior Simpson and Phil Jerrod. Glee comedy. 7.45pm. £15.95. Mar 8, FameLab Regional Final. Science, maths and engineering stars battle it out for a spot at the FameLab UK Final. Suitable for 16+. 7pm. £3. 01865 810000.

Burton Taylor Studio, Beaumont Street, Oxford: Until Mar 4, *Contractions*. A sharp commentary on the increasingly Orwellian nature of corporations and the state. 7.30pm. £5. 01865 305305.

The Old Fire Station, 40 George Street, Oxford: Mar 4, *I Am Beast*. An exploration of the power of grief and childish imagination, using UV landscapes, live music and life-sized puppetry. 7.30pm. £12, £10. 01865 263990.

Oxford Playhouse, Beaumont Street, Oxford: Until Mar 4, *The Winter's Tale*. 7.30pm. £11.50-£28. Mar 6-8, *Matthew Bourne's Early Adventures* 2. 7.30pm. £11.50-£26. Mar 9, *A Quite Interesting Evening with Sandi Toksvig and John Lloyd*. 7.30pm. £15-£25. Mar 11, Andy Parsons. 7.30pm. £16. 01865 305305.

New Theatre, George Street, Oxford: Mar 7-11, *Evita*. 7.30pm. £15-£44 plus booking fees £2.90-£3.90. 0844 871 7615.

The North Wall Arts Centre, South Parade, Summertown: Mar 8-9, *The Depraved Appetite of Tarrare the Freak*. 8pm. £16. 01865 319450.
Chipping Norton Theatre, Spring Street, Chipping Norton: Mar 6, *Fascinating Aida's Dille Keane*. 7.45pm. £21. Mar 8, *Labels*. Worklight Theatre. A funny, moving and honest story about mixed heritage and immigration. 7.45pm. £13, £11 conc. £8.50 schools. 01608 642350.

Cornestone, Station Road, Didcot: Mar 2, *You Win Again – The Story of the Bee Gees*. 8pm. £20, concs £18, members £16. Mar 3, *Dr Phil Hammond – Dr Phil's Health Revolution*. 8pm. £15, concs £13.50 (inc NHS), members £12. Mar 4, *Burton*. A one-man show about the life of actor Richard Burton. 7.30pm. £15, concs £13.50, members £12. Mar 5, *Leaping Frog*. For all the family. 2pm. £8, concs £6, members £6.40. 01235 515144.

Kenton Theatre, New Street, Henley on Thames: Mar 8-11, *After the Dance*. The Henley Players. 7.30pm. £11 - £14. 01491 575698.

Unicorn Theatre, Checker Walk, Abingdon: Mar 8-11, *Brief Encounter*. Abingdon Drama Club. 7.30pm. £10. www.abingdon-drama-club.com

CakeSport

banburycake.co.uk/sport



LATE WINNER: Banbury striker Ricky Johnson

Ricky's the hero in dramatic win

Late Banbury goal beats stubborn St Ives

RICKY Johnson's 90th-minute header earned Banbury United a last-gasp 1-0 victory at home to St Ives Town.

Puritans goalkeeper Jack Harding also saved a second-half penalty in the Evo-Stik Southern League Premier Division clash.

The victory keeps Banbury sixth in the table.

But they remain eight points adrift of the play-offs having played more games than the teams above them.

Mike Ford's side enjoyed the better of the early proceedings, with Conor Mc-

Donagh twice thwarted by goalkeeper Tim Trebes.

Johnson headed Eddie Odhiambo's cross wide as the first half ended goalless.

The home side continued their dominance after the break, with Trebes keeping out a George Nash drive, before Johnson nodded over from close range after the ball was played back into the area.

But on 61 minutes the visitors were presented with a golden opportunity to open the scoring when Nash brought down Danny Kelly in the box.

Harding, though, pulled off an excellent save to deny Josh Dawkin from the penalty spot.

Banbury got back on the front foot, but Trebes continued to frustrate them as he saved Luke Carnell's glancing header.

They finally broke the deadlock in the last minute when Johnson headed home a Tom Winters cross to the delight of the home fans.

Banbury Utd: Harding, Odhiambo, Bradbury, Nash, Westbrook, Carnell, McEachran, Self, Johnson, McDonagh (Duku 64), Winters. Subs not used: Martin, Humphreys, Smith, Browne.

Attendance: 334.

LATEST TABLE

EVO-STIK SOUTHERN LEAGUE

Premier Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Chippenham Tn	37	23	10	4	76	41	79
Hitchin Tn	35	21	9	5	64	31	72
Slough Tn	35	22	4	9	68	39	70
Mertlhyr Tn	37	19	12	6	67	31	69
Leamington	34	20	9	5	57	24	69
Banbury Utd	36	18	7	11	53	31	61
Frome Tn	35	16	11	8	65	51	59
Chesham Utd	34	17	7	10	58	39	58
Kettering Tn	36	17	7	12	66	49	58
Biggleswade Tn	36	14	10	12	60	49	52
Weymouth	36	11	14	11	62	48	47
Basingstoke Tn	36	14	5	17	46	58	47
King's Lynn Tn	36	10	16	10	48	56	46
St Ives Tn	37	12	10	15	42	59	46
Dunstable Tn	35	13	5	17	39	46	44
Redditch Utd	37	12	8	17	45	62	44
Stratford Tn	36	9	14	13	49	54	41
Dorchester Tn	35	9	8	18	41	65	35
Kings Langley	37	8	10	19	48	65	34
St Neots Tn	35	10	4	21	54	85	34
Cambridge City	36	7	10	19	37	60	31
Cirencester Tn	36	7	9	20	41	77	30
Hayes & Yeading	34	6	10	18	34	61	28
Cinderford Tn	33	6	3	24	38	77	21

STARS with Claire Petulengro

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ARIES

Mar 21-Apr 19

This week you begin to realise that your current blessings are far more powerful than your past regrets. Even though you have the urge to get in contact with someone from your past, you know it would not be the right thing to do. Congratulations Aries. You've finally turned that important corner. Ring now to hear why it's worth doing training courses this month and next.

0906 585 4360

LIBRA

Sep 23-Oct 22

There is a really emotional feel to your chart which could see you asking for things you don't really want in the long term. Stop and take a breath my friend, as I see from your stars that you can and will achieve your dreams if you make you a priority. News of a birth or pregnancy brings surprise by the end of this week. Ring now to hear why I'm so sure your past and present can mix together well.

0906 585 4366

TAURUS

Apr 20-May 20

Your health signs are improving by the day and, if you are one of the many Taurans who have been seriously lacking energy in the last few weeks, then you'll be pleased to hear it. You'll start to see with clarity what and who you need to give up to feel like you again. Mid-week transits see you saying things you shouldn't. Ring now so I can give you verbal guidelines.

0906 585 4361

SCORPIO

Oct 23-Nov 21

There is a really impulsive feel to your chart which could see you saying and doing things which others will be talking about for a long time to come. Decide carefully what you want out of life, then work like crazy to get it this week, as miracles can and will occur with a little more self belief. Ring now to hear why it's worth sticking to family's plans and arrangements.

0906 585 4367

GEMINI

May 21-Jun 20

I know you feel you have not had the support you would have liked. I also see from your chart that you're feeling better off now that someone is out of your life, although they chose to be! They did you a favour and you can do yourself one if you accept those social invites which I see will be coming your way. Ring now to hear why it's worth spending more time with Capricorns this week.

0906 585 4362

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 22-Dec 21

You work hard and play hard this week, which will of course see you the cause of much speculation. Your element of fire could see you sticking up for those who are not as innocent as they at first seem. Try to listen to both sides of any stories and don't judge without good cause. You may need other's fair minds and opinions yourself soon! Ring now so I can reveal your future.

0906 585 4368

CANCER

Jun 21-Jul 22

There is the need within you to sort out issues from your past. The problem Cancer, is that you will only be able to get hold of third parties over the coming days which could see you being given the wrong information. New flirtations begin and build up more quickly than you've ever experienced before. Ring now to hear how I see new beginnings in 2017.

0906 585 4363

CAPRICORN

Dec 22-Jan 19

Venus gives you the confidence to do things which you would not even have considered at the beginning of the year. You feel ready, willing and able to take on challenges. A great week to try new things and to kick bad habits. Time spent with family or even just talking to them more often over the phone reveals what really occurred over Christmas. Ring now. We have much to discuss.

0906 585 4369

LEO

Jul 23-Aug 22

Patience really will be a virtue in the days ahead, as you battle to understand why certain close ones have acted and spoken as they have. Time will reveal the real story, so try not to say things you may end up regretting. There is far more to what is going on in your career than at first meets the eye. All will be revealed by Thursday. Ring now to hear how Saturn blesses financial settlements.

0906 585 4364

AQUARIUS

Jan 20-Feb 18

A challenging few days made it hard for you to feel as focused as you'd like to be. Don't worry though, as help is on hand from those who know you well, if you'd let them help you. Any links with further education or learning can only be a good thing. Don't shrink away from challenges as you are more than ready to face anything that comes your way. Ring me for an honest opinion on love affairs.

0906 585 4370

VIRGO

Aug 23-Sep 22

A change to the way you think about your day to day life is brought on by the stars and you feel far more at ease with who you are and where you are going with your life. The return of a face you have not seen in a while is sure to stir your emotions and raise many questions. Know what you want before you ask questions this week. Ring now to hear how Mars brings the fun factor.

0906 585 4365

PISCES

Feb 19-Mar 20

A scatty air to your chart could see you losing things you have only just found. Don't worry. This will pass by Wednesday when you will find it easy to see what needs to be done to make your life more structured and enjoyable. Your ruling planet Jupiter makes family more important and you find yourself wanting to contact those you have not seen. Ring now for your week in full.

0906 585 4371

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£250,000



Kings Way

A spacious 4 bedroom semi detached home situated in the south of Banbury. The property comprises entrance hall, lounge, dining room, recently fitted kitchen diner and cloak room. Upstairs there are four generous bedrooms with ensuite bathroom to the master and separate family bathroom. Outside benefits from ample off road parking, garage, front and rear gardens.

£320,000

Let



Flat 1, 5 high Stret

Martin & Co are pleased to present a new to the market one bedroom apartment conveniently situated in the town centre with easy access for shops and local amenities and the train station. The property comprises: open plan kitchen and living room with washing machine and fridge freezer; separate double bedroom; bathroom with bath and shower and heated towel rail.

£625.00 pcm

Let & Managed



7 School End

Martin & Co are pleased to offer this charming, well presented two bedroom terraced property available immediately in the heart of Aynho village. The property comprises living room; kitchen, two double bedrooms and a bathroom with bath and shower. .

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Let & Managed



Cricketers Fields

Martin & Co are pleased to present a selection of new two bedroom luxury apartments situated within walking distance to the train station and town centre. Available unfurnished with off road parking. Don't miss out on the chance to rent in a brand new development. Available for viewings from 27th May.

£795.00

Let Agreed



Kings Road

A two bedroom semi detached house within walking distance to town centre. The property benefits from a rear enclosed garden. Good size living accommodation and spacious kitchen. Close to local schools and parks. Available unfurnished in February.

£775.00 pcm

Let & Managed



114 Broughton Road

We are pleased to present a new to the market, two bedroom refurbished end of terrace property with enclosed rear garden. Located with close proximity to the town center and walking distance to the train station.

£875.00 pcm

Let & Managed



Flat 2, 41 Middleton Road

Martin & Co are pleased to present a new to the market two bedroom apartment conveniently situated within walking distance to the town centre and train station. The property comprises open plan kitchen living room; two bedrooms and bathroom with bath and shower. Ideal for a professional couple or single person. EPC Rating D

£695.00 pcm

Let & Managed



Butchers Row

Martin & Co are pleased to present a new to the market three bedroom apartment in the town centre with allocated parking. The property comprises good size kitchen; living room; three bedrooms; bathroom with bath and shower. Available unfurnished. Conveniently situated within walking distance to the town centre and train station. EPC Rating: C

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Verney Road

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Announcements - Public Notices

NOTICE OF APPLICATION UNDER SECTION 17 OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003.

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This means allowing others to feel relaxed and at ease is a valuable people skill. It can make the vulnerable feel more comfortable and secure about their day-to-day life – and your essential part in it.

Many roles require working

closely with patients, such as a social care assistant, who helps the elderly or those with a disability.

As a care worker or support worker, you'll be tasked by a local authority or private care home to carry out broadly similar duties – helping individuals with the basics of living while always enhancing their quality of life.

Whatever your chosen role, there are a few golden rules for putting people at ease.

Be a listener – Being friendly is a no-brainer. Your upbeat, sunny disposition is going to brighten anyone's day. However the ability to listen to someone and be ob-

servant means you can identify issues without pushy questions. Nothing puts people at ease like the feeling someone is really listening and understanding their needs.

Stay open minded – In a caring role you'll work with people from all walks of life, each with their own cultural norms and personal quirks. Having a flexible attitude and an open mind means taking these in your stride. This leaves your client free to express themselves without embarrassment or judgement.

Be confident – Being informal can put people at ease but suddenly admitting you're not sure

of something has the opposite effect. A client wants to know they're in safe hands. You may not be able to solve an issue straight away but you can put the wheels in motion – being confident about this offers reassurance.

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